

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

In the abstract:

Please replace the pending abstract with the newly submitted abstract attached herewith on a separate sheet:

ABSTRACT

A multi-channel DSL communication link in accordance with the present invention may comprise a plurality of N DSL transceivers each configured with at least two bi-directional serial data interfaces with the first interface of a first transceiver coupled to a communication interface and the second interface of the first transceiver coupled to a first bi-directional serial data port of a second transceiver. Subsequent transceivers may be coupled in this manner with its N^h-1 and N^h+1 nearest transceivers. A method for transferring data between multiple transceivers is also disclosed, which can be described as follows: recovering a mapped portion of a downstream data stream at each of N DSL transceivers; communicating the portion to the next closest transceiver to a communication interface; and mapping an upstream data stream for transmission via the N transceivers; using each respective transceiver's second data interface to communicate a mapped portion to the next furthest transceiver.